

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 218899

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 NSC-05 MC-02 H-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /048 R

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R 030226Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

UNCLAS STATE 218899

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, KS

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL ROK REQUEST TO EXPORT BAYONETS

REF: JOINT COMUS KOREA/EMBASSY MESSAGE 230015Z JUL 76

1. IN PROVIDING TECH DATA PACKAGES TO SECURITY ASSISTANCE
RECIPIENT COUNTRIES FOR MANUFACTURE OF MILITARY MATERIEL,
WE HAVE BEEN CAREFUL TO ADHERE TO LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS
AS WELL AS CLEAR INTENT OF CONGRESS THAT SUCH MANUFACTURING
KNOW-HOW BE PROVIDED TO ENHANCE THE MILITARY SELF-SUFFICIENCY
OF THE RECIPIENT COUNTRY AND NOT REPEAT NOT TO ESTABLISH
AN ALTERNATIVE SUPPLY IN DIRECT COMPETITION WITH US
INDUSTRY. MOREOVER, SUCH TECH DATA PACKAGES SHOULD BE
PROVIDED ONLY IN THOSE CASES IN WHICH RECIPIENT COUNTRY
DEMAND FOR USE BY ITS OWN FORCES IS SUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY
PRODUCTION.

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PAGE 02 STATE 218899

2. WITH REGARD TO ROK INQUIRY (REFTEL) ABOUT THIRD COUNTRY SALES OF BAYONETS PRODUCED IN KOREA WITH USG-SUPPLIED TECH DATA, NEITHER ITEM IS OBSOLETE AND BOTH ARE STILL IN PRODUCTION IN THE US. THEREFORE, USG WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT CONCUR SHOULD ROKG REQUEST PERMISSION TOSELL THESE ITEMS TO THIRD COUNTRIES. ROKG MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHOULD BE INFORMED, AS APPROPRIATE, OF THIS USG POSITION.

3. WE APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY FOR EARLY REVIEW OF THIS REQUEST AND URGE THAT SIMILAR POTENTIAL REQUESTS FOR EXPORT OF OTHER US ORIGIN MILITARY MATERIEL BE HANDLED IN SAME MANNER IN ORDER TO PRECLUDE MISUNDERSTANDING AND POSSIBLE OVER-PRODUCTION BY ROK IN ANTICIPATION OF THIRD COUNTRY SALES. KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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